

## IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.     **(Currently Amended)**     A method of configuring automatic responses to incoming email messages, comprising:  
  
          enabling configuration of a plurality of automatic response email messages, at least one of which is tailored for an incoming email message having a first internal mail type and at least another of which is tailored for an incoming email message having an external mail type ~~each of the plurality of automatic response email messages tailored for a type of the incoming email messages;~~  
  
          examining the incoming email messages to determine the type; and  
  
          responding to the incoming email messages with one of the plurality of automatic response email messages, the one of the plurality of automatic response email messages selected according to the type of the incoming email message.
2.     **(Original)**     The method according to Claim 1 wherein examining the incoming email messages further comprises flagging the email messages according to the type.
3.     **(Currently Amended)**     The method according to Claim 1 wherein ~~the type~~ includes a plurality of internal mail types the plurality of automatic response email messages further includes at least one automatic response email message that is tailored for an incoming email message having a second internal mail type.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[4]] 1 wherein the external mail type comprises at least one of a plurality of defined domains.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[4]] 3 wherein each of the internal mail types comprises at least one of a plurality of defined internal organizations.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1 wherein enabling configuration of the plurality of automated response email messages further comprises enabling users to configure the plurality of automated response email messages via a user interface.

8. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-accessible medium having stored thereon instructions that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to: enable configuration of a plurality of automatic response email messages, at least one of which is tailored for an incoming email message having a first internal mail type and at least another of which is tailored for an incoming email message having an external mail type each of the plurality of automatic response email messages tailored for a type of the incoming email messages; examine the incoming email messages to determine the type; and

respond to the incoming email messages with one of the plurality of automatic response email messages, the one of the plurality of automatic response email messages selected according to the type of the incoming email message.

9. (Original) The article according to Claim 8 wherein the instructions that cause the machine to examine the incoming email messages further comprises instructions that cause the machine to flag the email messages according to the type.

10. (Currently Amended) The article according to Claim 8 wherein ~~the type includes a plurality of internal mail types~~ **the plurality of automatic response email messages further includes at least one automatic response email message that is tailored for an incoming email message having a second internal mail type.**

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The article according to Claim [[11]] **8** wherein the external mail type comprises at least one of a plurality of defined domains.

13. (Currently Amended) The article according to Claim [[11]] **8** wherein **each of** the internal mail types comprises at least one of a plurality of defined internal organizations.

14. (Previously Presented) The article according to Claim 8 wherein the instructions that enable configuration of the plurality of automated response email messages

further comprises instructions that enable users to configure the plurality of automated response email messages via a user interface.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for configuring automatic responses to incoming email messages, comprising:

a user interface capable of accepting input data to configure at least one of a first automatic response email message and a second automatic response email message to the incoming email messages, **wherein one of the automatic response messages is tailored for an incoming email message having an internal mail type and the other automatic response message is tailored for an incoming email message having an external mail type;**

a mail sender filter capable of examining the incoming email messages to determine a type of the email messages;

a first email responder capable of sending out the first automatic response email message based the type of the incoming email messages; and

a second email responder capable of sending out the second automatic response email message based on the type of the incoming email messages.

16. (Original) The system according to Claim 15 wherein the mail sender filter is further capable of flagging the email messages according to the type.

17-20. (Cancelled)

21. **(Currently Amended)** The system according to Claim [[20]] 15 wherein the external mail type comprises at least one of a plurality of defined domains.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The system according to Claim [[20]] 15 wherein the internal mail type includes at least one of a plurality of internal organizations.